

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 00810 151154Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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P 151003Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6959

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

S E C R E T AMMAN 0810

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MASS PFOR JO SA

SUBJECT: HAWK-VULCAN FINANCING

REF: STATE 032228, AMMAN 0740, STATE 034153

1. DURING MY DISCUSSIONS WITH KING HUSSEIN FEBRUARY 14, I BROUGHT HIM UP TO DATE ON WHERE THINGS STAND ON HAWK VULCAN FINANCING. I TOLD HIM THAT WE HAD TOUCHED BASE WITH SAUDI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND THEY HAD RECEIVED NOTHING. I ALSO TOL HIM THAT WE THOUGHT JORDAN SHOULD STAY OUT IN FRONT IN DEALING WITH THE SAUDIS ON THIS MATTER. I EMPHASIZED THAT WE DID NOT WANT TO GET IN THE MIDDLE OR TO PUSH SAUDIS IN A WAY THAT WOULD NOT BE POSITIVE. HE SAID "DONT WORRY, I HAVE NO FEARS ABOUT PUSHING. THAT IS WHAT I INTEND TO DO."

2. I THEN PROVIDED HIM A STATUS REPORT ON THE BASIS OF THE LATEST TELEGRAM WE HAVE HAD FROM THE DEPARTMENT (STATE 034153). I RPEATEC FOR HIM THE DETAILS OF WHERE WE NOW STOOD ON THE CONTRACTING PROCESS. INCLUDING THE FACT THAT CONTRACTS FOR OVER \$150 MILLION HAD BEEN CONCLUDED, THAT WE COULD NOT PROCEED DURING FEBRUARY WITH AN ADDITIONAL \$90 MILLION AND THAT WE HAD CEASED SIGNING ANY FURTHER CONTRACTS UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE DOWN PAYMENT WAS IN HAND. I TOLD HIM ALSO THAT THE

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EXTENSION WE HAVE GIVEN WAS EXTRAORDINARY AND COULD NOT

BE REPEATED AND THAT WHEN THIS EXTENSION WAS FINISHED THERE WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY A 12 MILLION LIABILITY FOR WORK ALREADY PERFORMED ON THE CONTRACTS AND THE TERMINATION CHARGES THERETO.

3. HE SAID HE APPRECIATED MY INFORMATION AND THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO SEND ANY BILL FOR TERMINATION CHARGES TO SAUDI ARABIA. I INDICATED THAT TO AVOID ANY MISUNDERSTANDING WE WOULD BE SENDING HIS GOVERNMENT A LETTER SETTING FORTH THE FACTS IN THE CASE AS OF THE PRESENT TIME. HE ASKED "WHEN CAN WE EXPECT THE LETTER?". I SAID WE WOULD TRY TO GET IT UP ON FEBRUARY 15. HE SAID "GOOD, I WILL SEND A MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA RIGHT AWAY WITH THE LETTER IN ORDER TO SEE IF ONCE MORE WE CAN MOVE THEN TO MAKE THE PAYMENT".

4. WE HAVE PREPARED A LETTER WHICH SETS FORTH THE PRESENT STATUS OF HAWK-VULCAN FINANCING IN ACCORD WITH REFTEL(STATE 034153) AND WHICH ADHERES AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE TO THE LANGUAGE OF THAT TELEGRAM. TEXT OF LETTER WILL BE FORWARDED TO JIDDA AND WASHINGTON AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE.

5. KING ALSO ASKED ME IF WE COULD PROVIDE A COPY OF THE LETTER TO THE SAUDIS. I SAID THIS WAS A DIFFICULT QUESTION AND COULD MAKE NO COMMITMENT. I ADDED, HOWEVER THAT IF SAUDIS ASKED US ABOUT THE LETTER WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO THEIR QUESTION. PICKERING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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